GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
A B S T R A C T

Revenue (DM) Department - NDMA guidelines on minimum standards of relief – W.P.No.444 of 2013 filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by Shri G.K.Bansal – Communication of guidelines for implementation – Adoption – Orders –Issued.

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ANNEXURE

National Disaster Management Authority

Guidelines on Minimum Standards of Relief

Introduction

Disaster Management Act (Section 12) mandates National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to recommend Guidelines for minimum standards of relief to be provided to persons affected by disaster which shall include:

(a) The minimum requirements to he provided in the relief camps in relation to shelter, food, drinking water, medical cover, sanitation

(b) Special provisions to be made for widows and orphans.

(c) Ex gratia assistance on account of loss of life as also assistance on account of damage to houses and for restoration of means of livelihood.

(d) Such other relief as may be necessary.

According to Section 19 of the act, the State Authorities shall lay down detailed guidelines for providing standards of relief to persons affected by disaster in the state and such standards shall in no case be less than the minimum standards in the guidelines laid down by National Authority. Hence, NDMA, as mandated by the Act, has worked out the basic minimum standards of relief to be provided to the persons affected by disaster.

Before finalizing the above Guidelines, various meetings were held in NDMA with the representatives of Nodal Ministries / Departments of Govt. of India in which senior officials from State Govt. also participated to offer their valuable views. It was observed during the above meetings that the Guidelines on Minimum Standards need to be simple and implementable by the States.

Definition of Relief and Rehabilitation Camp:-

Relief shelters and Rehabilitation camps shall be set up in order accommodate people affected by a disaster. The camp shall be temporary in nature, with basic necessities. People in the camp shall be encouraged to return to their respective accommodation once the normalcy is returned.

The State Govt. / District administration some times may not be able implement all the basic guidelines recommended by NDMA from the day one of the disaster and therefore, the following method shall be followed:-

(a) First three days -- Basic norms to the possible extent may be followed.

(b) 4 to 10 days -- Efforts should he made to follow most of the norms recommended

by NDMA in this Guideline.

(c) 11 days and above -- ' NDMA's prescribed norms shall be followed.

The factors like terrain, climatic conditions at the site of disaster etc. will also impact the requirement and ability of the administration and other stakeholders to deliver relief. These constraints should also be kept in view while prescribing minimum standards of relief.

2. Minimum Standards in respect of Shelter in relief camps: -

(a) State / UT / District Administration shall take necessary steps to pre-identify locations / buildings like local schools, anganwadi centers /cyclone shelters/ community centers/ marriage halls etc which can be used as Relief shelters where people can be accommodated in case of disaster in the area. In such centers, necessary facilities like sufficient number of toilets, water supply, generators with fuel for power back up during disasters shall be ensured.

(b) After a disaster, large covered space shall be required to accommodate the affected people. In order to avoid last minute arrangement and high cost, States/UTs can explore the option of advance MoUs with manufacturers / suppliers for supply of factory made fast track pre-fabricated shelters / tents / toilets / mobile toilets and urinals etc. which can be dismantled and taken back by the supplier after the closure of the camp. This arrangement shall avoid delay in setting up of camp and exorbitant billing of essential supplies.

(c) In the relief centers, 3.5 Sq.m of covered area per person with basic lighting facilities shall be catered to accommodate the victims. In mountainous areas, minimum covered area shall be relaxed due to lack of available flat land / built up area. Special care shall be taken for safety and privacy of inmates, especially for women, widows and children. Special arrangements should be made for differently-abled persons, old and medically serious patients.

(d) Relief centers shall be temporary in nature and be closed as soon as normalcy returns in the area.

(e) Sufficient number of sites based on population density shall be identified as relief centers and earmarked well in advance at the time of planning and development of a metro/city/town.

3. Minimum Standards in respect of Food in relief camps:-

(a) Milk and other dairy products shall be provided for the children and lactating mothers. Every effort shall be taken in the given circumstances to ensure sufficient quantity of food is made available to the affected people (especially for aged people and children) staying in the relief shelters / camps.

(b) Sufficient steps shall be taken to ensure hygiene at community and camp kitchens. Date of manufacturing and date of expiry on the packaged food items shall be kept in view before distribution.

(c) It shall be ensured that men and women are supplied food with minimum calorie of 2,400 Kcal per day. In respect of children / infants, the food to be supplied would be 1,700 Kcal per day.

4.Minimum Standards in respect of Water in relief camps:-

(a) Sufficient quantity of water shall be provided in the relief camps for personal cleanliness and hand wash.

(b) It may be ensured that the minimum supply of 3 liters per person, per day of drinking water is made available in the relief camps. Further, the State / UT / District authorities shall adjust the minimum quantity of water etc as per the geographic, demographic and social practices of the region. If other means for providing safe drinking water is not possible at-least double chlorination of water needs to be ensured.

(c) In order to ensure adequate water supply, the location of the source of water supply shall preferably be within the premises of relief shelter /camp. However, the maximum distance from the relief camp to the nearest water point shall not be More than 500 mtrs, if tapped water supply is available.

5.Minimum Standards in respect of Sanitation in relief camps:-

(a) Number of toilets:- 1 toilet for 30 persons may be arranged / built. Separate toilet and bath area be catered for women and children. At least 15 liters of water per person needs to be arranged for toilets / bathing purposes. Hand wash facility in toilets should be ensured. Steps may be taken for control of spread of diseases. Dignity kits for women shall be provided with sanitary napkins and disposable paper bags with proper labeling.

(b) Toilets shall not be more than 50 m away from the relief camps. Pit Latrines and Soak ways shall be at least 30 m from any ground water source and the bottom of any latrine has to be at least 1.5 m above the water level.

(c) Drainage or spillage from defecation system shall not run towards any surface water source or shallow ground water source.

6.Minimum Standards in respect of medical cover in relief camps:-

(a) Mobile medical teams shall visit relief camps to attend the affected people. Steps shall be taken to avoid spread of communicable diseases.

(b) If the relief camps are extended over a long time, then necessary arrangement may be made for psychosocial treatment.

(c) Helpline should be set up and contact number and details of which shall be displayed at the relief/shelters and adequately publicized to inform the people.

(d) For pregnant women, necessary basic arrangements shall be made by the local administration for safe delivery.

(e) Advance tie up / arrangement shall be made with the Govt / Private hospitals so that necessary doctors / para-medical staff are available at short notice for relief camps to attend to the affected people. In respect of people who are affected and being referred to hospitals for treatment / operation etc, suitable transportation shall be arranged to reach to referred hospital.

(f) In order to manage mass casualty in a disaster, advance contingency plans for management of multiple casualties shall be developed.

7. Minimum Standards of Relief for Widows and Orphans:-

(a) In each camp, a separate register shall be maintained for entering the details of women who are widowed and for children who are orphaned due to the disaster. Their complete details shall be entered in the register, duly counter signed by the concerned officials and this register shall be kept as a permanent record with the District administration.

(b) Special care shall be given to widows and orphans who are separated from their families. For widows, certificate by the District Admn shall be issued stating that she lost her husband in the disaster and the same shall be issued **within 15 days of disaster**.

(c) As the widow / family shall be economically weak, the State administration shall provide a reasonable amount for the funeral rites of her husband and this payment shall be deducted from the subsequent financial compensation/ relief that shall be paid by the Govt.

(d) Necessary financial compensation and other government assistance need to be arranged within 45 days of the disaster to the widow and to the orphaned children. In respect of orphaned children, similar certificate shall be issued and the children need to be taken care of properly and the funds that may be given to the children by the Govt. shall be duly deposited in a PSU Bank in a Joint A/C where the Collector / DC shall be the first account holder of the Bank account. Interest from the fund can he given to the child / guardian every month for his / her proper upkeep. Education for the child shall be ensured by the District / local administration.

(e) As far as ex gratia assistance on account of loss of life as also assistance on account of damage to houses and for restoration of means of livelihood, the norms provided by Govt. of India (Ministry of Home Affairs) for assistance from SDRF should be the minimum standards of relief.

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